

By: Kolkhorst, Christian

H.B. No. 2504

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2504:

By: Branch

C.S.H.B. No. 2504

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to
3 make available to the public on the institution's Internet website
4 certain undergraduate course information.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 51.974 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.974. INTERNET ACCESS TO COURSE INFORMATION. (a)
9 Each institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003,
10 shall make available to the public on the institution's Internet
11 website the following information for each undergraduate classroom
12 course offered for credit by the institution:

13 (1) a syllabus that:
14 (A) satisfies any standards adopted by the
15 institution;

16 (B) provides a brief description of each major
17 course requirement, including each major assignment and
18 examination;

19 (C) lists any required or recommended reading;
20 and

21 (D) provides a general description of the subject
22 matter of each lecture or discussion;

23 (2) a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor that
24 lists the instructor's:

1 (A) postsecondary education;
2 (B) teaching experience; and
3 (C) significant professional publications; and
4 (3) if available, a departmental budget report of the
5 department under which the course is offered, from the most recent
6 semester or other academic term during which the institution
7 offered the course.

8 (b) The information required by Subsection (a) must be:

9 (1) accessible from the institution's Internet website
10 home page by use of not more than three links;

11 (2) searchable by keywords and phrases; and

12 (3) accessible to the public without requiring
13 registration or use of a user name, a password, or another user
14 identification.

15 (c) The institution shall make the information required by
16 Subsection (a) available not later than the seventh day after the
17 first day of classes for the semester or other academic term during
18 which the course is offered. The institution shall continue to make
19 the information available on the institution's Internet website
20 until at least the fourth anniversary of the date on which the
21 institution initially posted the information.

22 (d) The institution shall update the information required
23 by Subsection (a) as soon as practicable after the information
24 changes.

25 (e) The governing body of the institution shall designate an
26 administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of this
27 section. The administrator may assign duties under this section to

1 one or more administrative employees.

2 (f) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, each
3 institution of higher education shall submit a written report
4 regarding the institution's compliance with this section to the
5 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
6 representatives, and the presiding officer of each legislative
7 standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher
8 education.

9 (g) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt
10 rules necessary to administer this section.

11 SECTION 2. Section 51.974, Education Code, as added by this
12 Act, applies beginning with the 2010 fall semester.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.